

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for insulating a bonding wire  
5 comprising:

a bond tool for attaching a bonding wire to a bond pad;

a dispensing tool coupled to the bond tool wherein  
the dispensing tool has a nozzle orifice having an arcuate  
10 shape in a dimension perpendicular to the bonding wire for  
partially surrounding the bonding wire to form a coating  
of an insulating liquid on the bonding wire after  
attaching the bonding wire while the bonding wire is drawn  
through the bond tool.

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2. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the  
dispensing tool moves between a non-coating position for  
avoiding mechanical interference with the bond tool and a  
coating position for coating the bonding wire with the  
20 insulating liquid.

3. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the nozzle  
orifice is relatively narrow in a dimension parallel to  
the bonding wire and relatively wide in a dimension  
25 perpendicular to the bonding wire.

4. The apparatus of Claim 1 further comprising  
an energy source coupled to the dispensing tool for  
solidifying the insulating liquid coating the bonding  
30 wire.

5. The apparatus of Claim 4 wherein the energy source is one of a heat source and an ultraviolet light source.